GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:541
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
CENTRAL INSTITUTES FOR CLASSICAL TAMIL
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Central Institutes for Classical Tamil;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the locations identified for setting up of the same;

(c) the time by which the above Institutes are likely to be set up;

(d) whether it is also proposed to set up international awards in memory of ancient Tamil literacy figures; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): Central Institute for Classical Tamil (CICT) is proposed to be set up in Chennai. During 2007-2012, an expenditure of Rs.149.69 crores is expected to be incurred.

(d)&(e): The existing 'Central Plan Scheme for Development of Tamil Language' will be transferred to Central Institute for Classical Tamil and this scheme has provision for one life time achievement award for Indian scholar and two International awards for life time achievement, one each for person of Indian and non-Indian origin.There is a proposal to rename these awards as Thiruvalluvar Award and Tolkappiyar Award respectively.